

**AVAPL EXECUTIVE BOARD CONFERENCE CALL**  
**AGENDA**  
**OCTOBER 11, 2012 (3:00PM ET)**

**Present:** Dr. Levenson, Dr. Fischer, Dr. Klocek, Dr. Landes & Dr. Cavicchia

**Minutes** – Executive Board Minutes of 9/13/2012 were reviewed with no changes indicated. The minutes were approved.

**Treasurer's Report** – no change in account balances

AVAPL Account - \$32,968.06

AVAPL Conference - \$28,016.06

**Old Business**

1. **Status of Advisory Board Membership** – Dr. Levenson reported the following have expressed interest in membership in the Advisory Board:

Peggy Krieshok	Mark Hinterthuer
Jody Rubenstein	Russell Lemle
Steve Lovett	Kathy McNamara
George Shorter	Brent Kenney
Jeff Burk	

Meetings occur the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the Month @ 3:00 pm and Executive Board members were invited to attend.

2. **Membership Invitations** – Dr. Levenson reported that she sent an invitation to the field to renew and join AVAPL. There are some reports of incomplete applications requiring follow up contact. Numbers are currently incomplete given the membership drive has just begun.
3. **VACO Directory Listings** – Dr. Zeiss and Sonja supplied a list of 66 names representing Psychology leadership in VACO and/or in the field. Dr. Levenson reported the VACO Directory listing will be updated.
4. **Defining Our Internal Mission:**
  - A. **Fact Finding for Title 38** – no new information is available at this time
  - B. **National credentialing exploration** – nothing new to report – will keep this as an ongoing issue
  - C. **EDRP Impact for Psychologists** – Dr. Zeiss had suggested this as a potential area of value to Psychologists. Discussion points included that while there may be many applicants for vacant psychology positions, the numbers are misleading as many of the candidates are ruled out due to not coming from APA Accredited programs and/or not having sufficient

training to meet the demand of the position. EDRP is consistently of interest to early career graduates from APA Approved Programs.

- D. **FEDAC Endeavor** – Dr. Klocek reported growing interest in including a VA FEDAC (Federal Education Advocacy Coordinator) as a part of the APA grassroots education advocacy network. Dr. McNamara currently serves as a regional FEDAC, but other regions have difficulty recruiting VA members to advocate for graduate education in clinical psychology. VACO encouraged collaboration with Bob Zeiss and Keith Shaw in proceeding. The focus of FEDAC advocacy, the Graduate Psychology Education funding, provides competitive training grants to provide graduate education with an emphasis on PC-MHI type programs and includes an emphasis on Veterans. VA facilities are eligible for these grants. MIRECCs may prove highly competitive in applying for these grants given their education focus. It would be beneficial to have more VA psychologists involved in FEDAC. Consideration will be given to a break-out workshop at the upcoming AVAPL Conference in San Antonio.
  
- E. **Update on Conference Planning** – The conference will be held at the San Antonio Westin May 22-24.

#### **New Business**

- 1. **Mid-Winter Meeting** – Dr. Levenson reported tentative dates for the Mid-Winter meeting under consideration include the week of February 25<sup>th</sup> or March 4<sup>th</sup>.
  
- 2. **Condolences** - Dr. Landes reported that flowers were sent on behalf of AVAPL to Dr. Robert Gresen given the loss of his mother.
  
- 3. **VHA Handbook 1160.05** – Local Implementation of Evidence-Based Psychotherapies for Mental and Behavioral Health Conditions was briefly discussed.

#### **Other Business** (pending)

- 1. Partnering with Div 18 on Mentoring - or establish plan to simplify it
  
- 2. Mentoring to New Chiefs, dealing with HR
  
- 3. Live Meeting on VA Topics for new psychologists to assist with acculturation
  
- 4. Strategies to increase/retain membership
  
- 5. 501c6 Organization - use GOOGLE and “hang outs” (audio and video) and not VANTS

Stephen Cavicchia, Psy.D.  
Secretary